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Since the above was written the British Government has reaffirmed its protest against the Panama Canal bill. In a note filed with the State Department on August 28 by A. Mitchell Innes, chargé of the British Embassy in Washington, it was stated that if a satisfactory agreement cannot be reached through direct negotiation Great Britain will ask that the question be arbitrated by the Hague Court. In the note it was stated that the British government would give careful consideration to the Canal bill and also to the special memorandum sent to the Senate by the President accompanying his approval of the bill. There will be further negotiation on the subject, and it is probable that a satisfactory agreement will soon be reached.

Only One New Battleship.

The final outcome of the battleship contest in Congress, which was watched with so much interest throughout the country, was the agreement of the two Houses last month, just before adjournment, to make appropriation for one new ship of the Dreadnaught type, and for only one, the new monster to cost not more than \$15,000,000. All the efforts of the Senate and of the big-navy men in the House to force through the provision for an increase of the navy by two huge fighting craft failed.

We have been glad to know that the opposition in Congress to further naval increase has not been by any means all "politics," as has been quite generally supposed. Many men in the House and a few in the Senate hold, and have held for several years, regardless of political affiliations, that there is no reason why the navy should be increased by any more units at the present time. They still hold this view, though they have accepted the compromise on one ship in order to break the deadlock and not have the whole navy bill go by default.

We regard the limitation of naval increase to one battleship as a very substantial gain in the direction of sanity and economic sense. If this limitation can be maintained hereafter, as it seems probable will be the case, in spite of frantic efforts which will be made to restore the two-ship program, it means that the growth of the navy, at least in number of battleships, has actually ceased, for one new ship built each year will only just replace an old one going out of commission.

The action of Congress in this direction represents, we believe, the prevailing sentiment of the people of the country, who have been waking up very rapidly the last three or four years to the absurdity and wickedness of the United States, situated as it is and making such high professions of peace leadership among the nations, plunging recklessly deeper and deeper into the spirit of the armament rivalry of the Old World. The check

has come none too soon to suit the toiling masses of the people, on whom the burdens of war and war preparations bear most heavily.

Some members of Congress and various citizens of the country are crying out that this limitation of the navy will reduce us to fifth in rank among the naval powers and put us at the mercy of other countries. But why should we not be willing to be fifth in rank, or even lower than that, since our national honor, our highest interests, and our mission to the world lie in an entirely different direction from that of supremacy in brute force and instruments of death? Time will show that we shall be just as safe building one new Dreadnaught a year as if we built four—indeed, safer, and much more honored and respected and *followed*. The end of the consuming naval rivalry of our day, which has just now burst out with new fury between Germany and Great Britain, must come soon, in one way or another, and the time is not far away when the American people will boast of it as among their supremest honors that they took the first step leading to the peaceful removal of this huge barrier to the further economic, social, and moral progress of the world.

Dr. Eliot Home from the East.

Dr. Charles W. Eliot, president emeritus of Harvard University, arrived at San Francisco on August 5 from his peace journey around the world. He went on a voyage of inquiry, under the auspices of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, to study the conditions in the Eastern countries with a view of trying to find out how the Endowment, of whose board of trustees he is one, may operate most successfully in promoting interest in world peace in those lands. He has been gone about nine months, having sailed from New York on November 2, 1911. He has given lectures on the proposed work of the Carnegie Endowment in the large cities of China and Japan, has visited and made inquiries of many prominent men, diplomats, bankers, scholars, priests, royal personages, etc. The results of his inquiries and observations will be put into a comprehensive report which he will make at an early date to the trustees of the Endowment. He has gone for the present to his summer home at Mount Desert Island, Maine, where he will rest and prepare his report.

It is not possible at this time to give any complete statement of the conclusions which Dr. Eliot has reached. But what he has said in lectures, in interviews, etc., during the trip and since he returned gives a pretty clear indication of what he will say.

We notice first of all that he brings word that the whole Orient appears to be in accord with the peace movement. Instead of secretly planning to make war on the United States, he found Japanese statesmen be-